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(54) Fixed mounted sorting cuvette with user replaceable nozzle

(57) A flow cell and flow cytometer in which a nozzle at the end of a flow channel is disposed on a removable substrate held at a registered location on a flow cell. Other elements including illumination optics, light collection optics, and the flow cell may then be positioned at fixed locations and would not require subsequent periodic adjustment. The registered location for positioning the nozzle allows removal and replacement of the nozzle key with the nozzle subsequently positioned in the identical location.

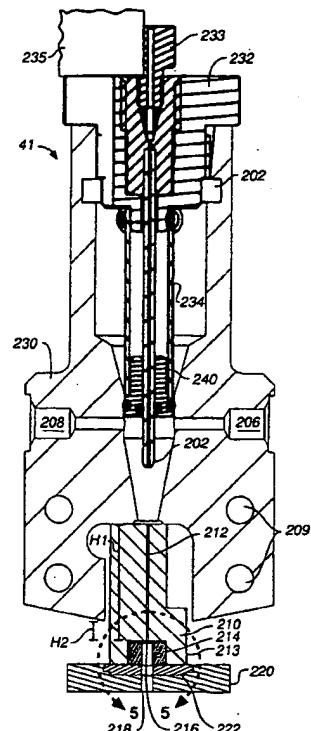


FIG. - 3



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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Y	---	7-9, 20-22, 45-54	
Y,D	US 6 133 044 A (VAN DEN ENGH GER) 17 October 2000 (2000-10-17) * abstract * * column 9, line 28 - column 10, line 4 * * figure 1 * * figure 4 *	4	
Y,D	US 5 700 692 A (SWEET RICHARD G) 23 December 1997 (1997-12-23) * abstract * * column 4, line 27 - line 38 * * figure 1 *	7-9, 20-22	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) G01N
Y	US 5 517 870 A (KURIMURA MASAAKI ET AL) 21 May 1996 (1996-05-21) * abstract * * column 8, line 9 - line 37 * * figure 3 *	7-9, 20-22	
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner
MUNICH	12 February 2004		Bravin, M
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document			
T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons 8: member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 03 02 0445

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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